

LEYC Sailing Sport News 4 Oct 2016



*Splendid J/24 sport on 2 October
More expected Sun 9 October
Our Dinghy Fleet's 2016 season was
best for years say its sailors
Proven: LEYC has a large keen well
skilled race management cohort.*

We pioneered rules making sailing a sport 200 years ago

Autumn J/24 Series Results: Sun 2 Oct 16

Nine J/24s went out to race on Sunday 2 October in a brisk gusty SE breeze with some sunshine: sparkling conditions for four energetic exciting races on well-set fair courses set by Race Officer, Michael Whaley managing a keen skilled race team in RIBs laying race marks and other support boats. Course lengths and timing were very efficient. Four full length, tightly contested races were fitted neatly into four hours.

Boat, Club, Helm, Race scores, Total

1 Jigalo, LEYC Luke McBride, 2, 3, 1, 1, total 7pts
2 Jelignite, LRYC Finbar Ryan, 1, 1, 2, 5 tot 9 pts
3 Jana, SYC Gerry Gilligan, 3, 2, 3, 2 tot 10 pts
4 Jeriatrix, LEYC, Mick Clarke 5, 5, 4, 4, tot 18 pts
5 Jota, LEYC John Buckley, 6, 4, 6, 3, tot 19 pts
6 TJ, LEYC, Barry Humphries, 7, 6, 5, 6, tot 24 pts
7 Jasper, LEYC, John M, 4, 10, 10, 10, tot 34 pts
8 Jean, LEYC, Sean Hawkshaw, 8+3x10 tot 38 pts
9 Jet, LEYC, John Carton, 10, 10, 10, 10, tot 40 pts.

9 boat entry: penalty score 10. Three retired: Jet before first start with a burst winch, Two after one race: Jean, new to the LEYC fleet with gear damage; Jasper, skipper injured, went alongside a support boat Big Red, John came off, ashore and to A&E. Word later: all well, flesh wound, four big stitches. Jasper motored to moorings. Two boats lacking crew did not compete, Luder-Too, on moorings, and Crazy Horse, ashore, mast down, both Sligo YC.

Stephen Carson made a running table of series scores. Ten J/24s have sailed at least one race so far. Positions after 8 races: 1st Jana, 2nd Jigalo, 3rd Jeriatrix (and best Westerly) 4th Jana, 5th Jasper, 6th Jelignite, 7th TJ, 8th Luder-Too, 9th Jet and 10th Jean. A further 8 races are due on Sunday 9 and Saturday 15 October.



Exciting sailing sport for boats, helms and crew

Ireland's J/24 fleet contains 'thoroughbreds' and 'cavalry'. The first include 2003 Italian built Jigalo, used to win 2005 and 2014 J/24 Worlds, Italian Jota, and two carefully Rogers built J/24s, Jelignite and Crazy Horse. The cavalry: most of the Autumn Series fleet are all c.1980 Westerly built war horses, rough, sturdy but a bit heavy. Three thoroughbreds clashed on 2 October at the front of the fleet: Jigalo (7) then Jelignite (9) two firsts each: Jana (10) close third.

War horse Westerly sport was every bit as intense: Jeriatrix, equal points with Jasper on 18 September, had made best Westerly by a second in last race. In the first race on 2 October, Jasper came back: 4th ahead of Jeriatrix 5th, but then had to retire. Lucky old Jeriatrix barely made top Westerly again by one point over dancer Jota, whose 3rd in the 4th race was best place achieved by any Westerly in these four races.

We need more crew – come along at 11.00 next Sunday. J/24s race with five crew (max 400Kg). Many on Sunday had only 3 or 4 crew. Working smart and hard they did well, despite scant crew weight on the rail to windward – look at the picture below: Jelignite heeled far, a wake plume showing abeam as her keel is driven flat leeward. She had only two on the rail. Jeriatrix crossing astern had three, a bit less heeled.



Sailing Race Management

Ireland's oldest sailing sport club, LEYC has continuous history of race management for a fleet of fast sailing boats from about 1820 – then titled 'Subscribers to the Boat Races on Lough Erne for the encouragement of fast Sailing Boats..' Our early rules were a mix of nautical (larboard give way to starboard etc.) and horse racing rules with a start/finish line and on set

course that all horses, or boats, had to complete. Near 200 years later, the line set on Sunday 2 October by Michael Whaley off Joey and Caroline's cottage on Inishdoney was right where it was in early 1820s.



Volunteers on the Committee boat above with Mick Whaley, Fairy sailor in Maeve (right) include Warren Cooper, autumn J/24 series Organiser, Jo Thompson, GP14 dinghy sailor, and Bertie Forsythe, Yeoman sailor. Those in RIBs included GP14 sailors Jorgen and daughter Leah Pedersen: all from among nearly 40 LEYC members volunteering and enjoying service to LEYC autumn sailing management. We sailors strongly thank them for constructing such superb sailing sport.

2016 Dinghy Sailing Season – Best for Years

This year's revival of race management began with the dinghy fleet racing on Wednesday evenings from mid-May (delayed by a wet windy Spring) Led by new Sailing Secretary, John McCrea, Michael Clarke, Mick Whaley and Michele Martin set lines and courses and ran starts for usually four races each evening. John (pictured) gave the same good service to J/24 racing.



This service was good fun to give: well rewarded by the thanks and enthusiasm of dinghy and J/24 sailors. The dinghy sailors willingly helped launch and recover the RIB. All enjoyed sport, mutual help and friendship. Michael Brines declared 2016 season best for years.

Autumn J/24 Series Plans: Sun 9 & Sat 15 Oct.

The three boats that retired on Sunday past are keen to be back to the fun and fray this Sunday 9 October. Rumours are true: a local 'thoroughbred' plans to launch to 'never again' let Jigalo, Jelignite and Jota away with the honours. Likewise, Crazy Horse gang intend to rig and launch by Sunday. Latest: Luder-Too also plan to get a crew together again this Sunday.

A dream: five thoroughbreds harried by seven cavalry might make a dozen J/24s racing this Sunday. Forecast (made Tuesday) dry, dull, 13C, Wind SE 7 gust 14 mph.

The final four races are planned for Saturday 15 October, same schedule as for the three Sundays. This is what worked well when we ending the first J/24 autumn series on a similar date last year, 2015.

It leaves Sunday to bring boats to the crane and lift out – a job best done all together helping and which may need ingenuity and care if water levels are much lowered. Winter storage is available at LEYC if needed.



Join LEYC – The Commodore has agreed that the fee paid by anyone joining the Club this Autumn will also cover membership for all the coming 2017/8 year.

Lost Clothing – In September, a Canterbury shirt was left in the bar. On Sunday past, 2 October a blue jacket was found floating in the race area - Yours?

LEYC Spring J/24 Series – we tried in 2016, after a late March Easter. Hard winds, cold wet weather cancelled races. We had some on May Sundays ahead of Sligo YC's record 19 boat J/24 event. Easter Sunday 2017 is mid-month, 16 April, 3rd of 5 April Sundays. May has 4 Sundays. **Perhaps** a 6 Sunday 24 race Spring J/24 Series: April 23 & 30; May 7, 14, 21 & 28? **Opinion?**

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